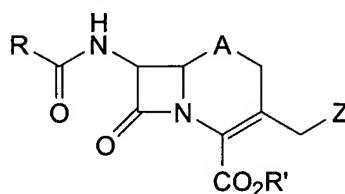Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 1 and 2, cancel claims 3-16, and add claims 17-26.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having the ~~general~~ formula:

(I)

in which

R is a benzyl, 2-thienylmethyl, or cyanomethyl group;
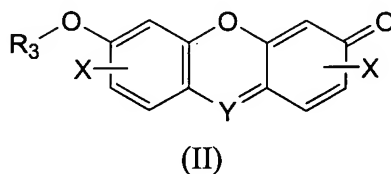
R' is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, physiologically acceptable ~~salts~~ salt or metal, an ammonium ~~cations~~ cation, ~~--CHR$_2$OCO(CH$_2$)$_n$CH$_3$--,~~ and --CHR$_2$OCOC(CH$_3$)$_3$--, in which

R$_2$ is selected from the group consisting of H ~~and~~, lower alkyl, ~~acylthiomethyl, acyloxy-alpha-benzyl,~~ deltabutyrolactonyl, methoxycarbonyloxymethyl, phenyl, methylsulphinylmethyl, β-morpholinoethyl, dialkylaminoethyl, and dialkyaminocarbonyloxymethyl~~,~~ ~~and n is from 1 to 4~~;
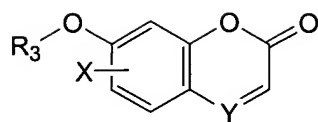
A is selected from the group consisting of ~~S,~~ O, SO, SO$_2$, and CH$_2$; and
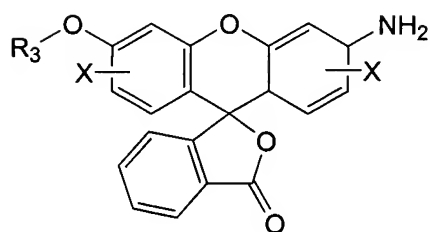
Z is a donor fluorescent moiety.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein the donor fluorescent moiety is selected from:
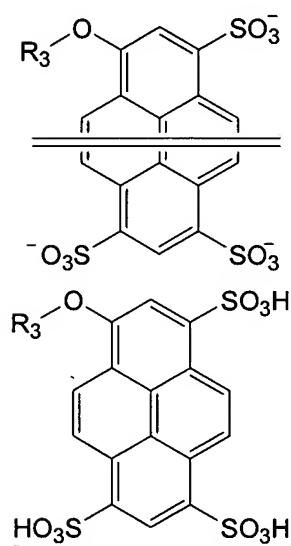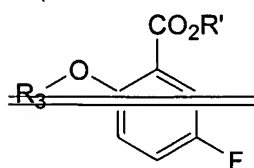

(II)

Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005
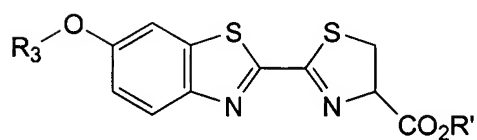
PATENT

(III)

(IV)

(V)

(VI)

Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT

(VII)

(VIII)

(IX)

(X); **and**

Appl. No.. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT
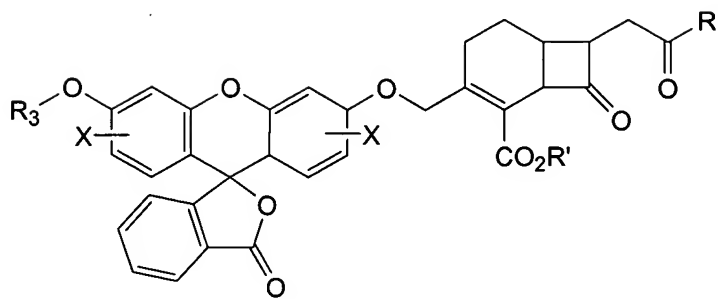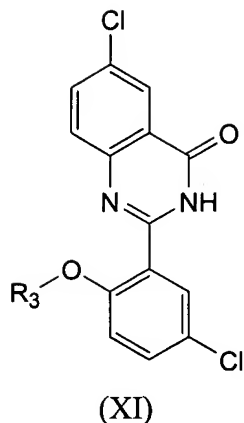
(XI)

and wherein

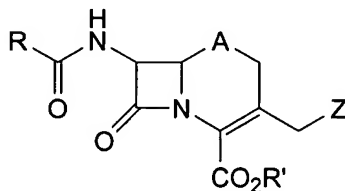~~R and R' are as defined in claim 1,~~

R₃ is ~~a linker for the fluorescent moiety~~ **a direct bond;**

X is H, F, Cl, Br, or CO₂R'[[,]]**;** and

Y is N, CH, C-CN, or C-CF₃.

3. - 16. (Canceled)

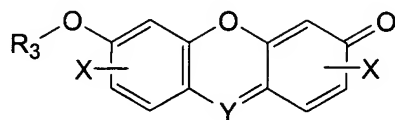**17.** (New) A compound having the formula:

(I)

in which

R is a benzyl, 2-thienylmethyl, or cyanomethyl group;

R' is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, physiologically acceptable
salt or metal, an ammonium cation, and --CHR₂OCOC(CH₃)₃--, in which
R₂ is selected from the group consisting of H, lower alkyl,
deltabutyrolactonyl, methoxycarbonyloxymethyl, phenyl,
methylsulphinylmethyl, β-morpholinoethyl, dialkylaminoethyl, and
dialkyaminocarbonyloxymethyl;

Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT

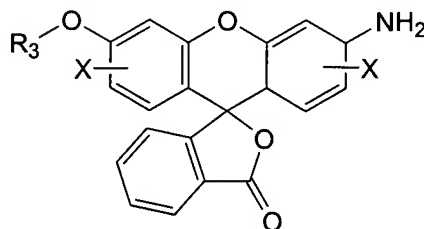A is selected from the group consisting of S, O, SO, SO$_2$, and CH$_2$; and

Z is selected from:

(II)

(III)

(IV)

(V)

(VII)

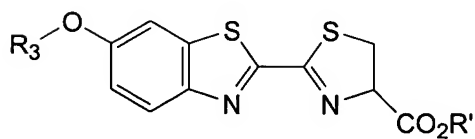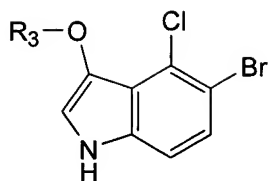(VIII)

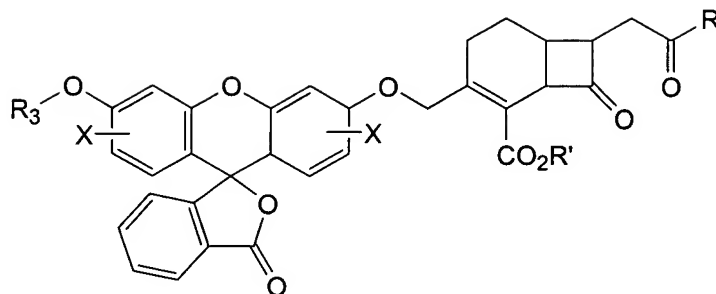Appl. No. 10/044,486
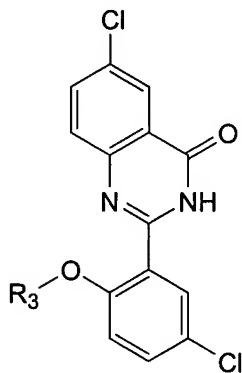Amdt. dated February 15, 2005
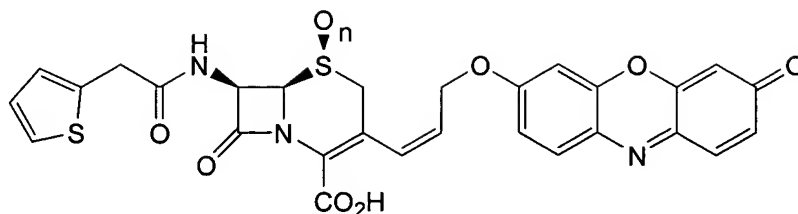
PATENT
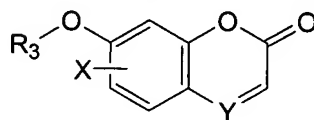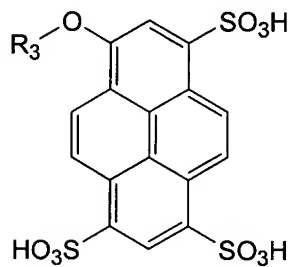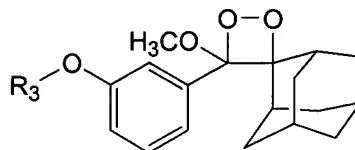
(IX)

(X); and

(XI)

wherein

R_3 is a direct bond;

X is H, F, Cl, Br, or CO_2R'; and

Y is N, CH, C-CN, or C-CF$_3$.

18. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from O, SO, SO$_2$, and CH$_2$.

19. (New) A compound having the formula:

Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT

wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

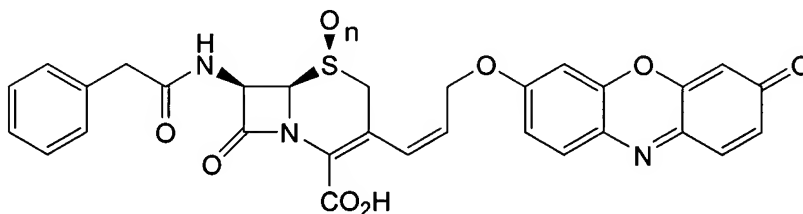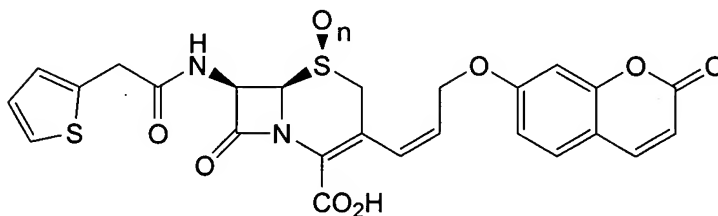20. (New) The compound of claim 19, wherein n is 1 or 2.

21. (New) A compound having the formula:

wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

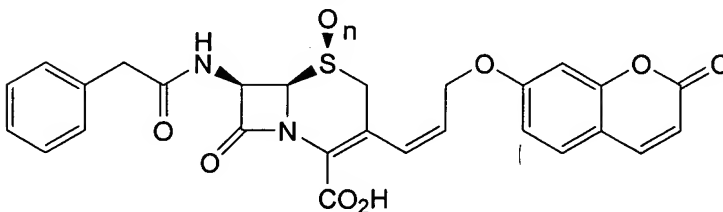22. (New) The compound of claim 21, wherein n is 1 or 2.

23. (New) A compound having the formula:

wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

24. (New) The compound of claim 23, wherein n is 1 or 2.

25. (New) A compound having the formula:

Appl. No. 10/044,486
Amdt. dated February 15, 2005

PATENT

wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

26. (New) The compound of claim 25, wherein n is 1 or 2.